

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-stage baking apparatus for a plasma display ~~comprising~~ comprising:

a baking furnace for performing heat treatment to substrates while conveying the substrates, ~~wherein~~ substrates;

plural stages of conveying means for conveying the ~~substrates are provided, and~~ substrates, wherein the conveying means adjacent in an up and down direction are divided with heat insulating ~~walls~~ partitions provided between them so as to ~~constitute have a multi-stage heat treatment rooms structure~~ constitute have a multi-stage heat treatment rooms structure in the baking furnace, and each of the multi-stage heat treatment rooms comprises ~~and heating means are provided appropriately to the heat insulating partitions within the baking furnace, and a heating area, a keeping area and a cooling area are provided in order in a traveling direction of the conveying means; means within each furnace of each of the multiple stages~~

heating means on any one of a top face and a bottom face of the cooling area; and

cooling means on the other one of the top face and the bottom face of the cooling area.

2. (Currently Amended) The multi-stage baking apparatus for a plasma display panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heating means in the baking furnace ~~may be so~~ is configured as to be able to control a heating amount separately, ~~or configured as to control a heating amount of each temperature zone provided in a conveying direction of the substrates.~~

3. (Previously Presented) The multi-stage baking apparatus for a plasma display panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heating means is an electric heater.

4. (Currently Amended) The multi-stage baking apparatus for a plasma display panel as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein further comprising a return conveyor is provided under the conveying means in multiple stages for conveying the substrates.~~

5. (New) The multi-stage baking apparatus for a plasma display panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heating area is provided with heating means on both a top face and a bottom face thereof.

6. (New) The multi-stage baking apparatus for a plasma display panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the keeping area is provided with heating means on any one of a top face and a bottom face thereof.